

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Behavioral Health	(2) MEETING DATE 8/12/2014	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Cindy Collins, ASM, 788-2932; Amy Olson, ASO II, 781-4729	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve a renewal FY 2014-15 contract with County Office of Education in the amount not to exceed \$250,000 to facilitate Drug Medi-Cal reimbursement to County Office of Education in order to provide outpatient drug-free substance abuse treatment services to Drug Medi-Cal eligible students enrolled in Community School programs. All Districts.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board approve and direct the Chairperson to sign a renewal FY 2014-15 contract with the County Office of Education (COE) in the amount not to exceed \$250,000 to facilitate Drug Medi-Cal reimbursement to COE in order to provide outpatient drug-free substance abuse treatment services to Drug Medi-Cal eligible students enrolled in Community School programs.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Drug Medi-Cal	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$250,000.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$250,000.00	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ____) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: <u>July 16, 2013</u>	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Reviewed by Leslie Brown			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jeff Hamm, Health Agency Director
Anne Robin, LMFT, Behavioral Health Administrator

DATE: 8/12/2014

SUBJECT: Request to approve a renewal FY 2014-15 contract with County Office of Education in the amount not to exceed \$250,000 to facilitate Drug Medi-Cal reimbursement to County Office of Education in order to provide outpatient drug-free substance abuse treatment services to Drug Medi-Cal eligible students enrolled in Community School programs. All Districts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve and direct the Chairperson to sign a renewal FY 2014-15 contract with the County Office of Education (COE) in the amount not to exceed \$250,000 to facilitate Drug Medi-Cal reimbursement to COE in order to provide outpatient drug-free substance abuse treatment services to Drug Medi-Cal eligible students enrolled in Community School programs.

DISCUSSION

The Community School program, formerly known as the Sober School program, is a volunteer program and assists students who have been identified to have drug and/or alcohol abuse issues which is interfering with their ability to receive an education. Students are given the opportunity to become sober in an environment where they can go at their own pace and not feel overwhelmed by managing their sobriety, which can be an obstacle in traditional schools filled with triggers to relapse. Community School Program is a 6-hour a day treatment program for youth committed to remaining clean and sober. The program provides classes coupled with outpatient drug-free treatment services in four different community schools throughout the County: Sober Community School, Loma Vista Community School, Chalk Mountain Community School, and Mesa View Community School. Each of these sites have been Drug Medi-Cal certified via the County's Drug Medi-Cal certification, to provide appropriate services and receive reimbursement for services provided to eligible Drug Medi-Cal students.

Students can either request to be placed in the program or be referred by various sources including school staff, Probation staff, Juvenile Court officials, family members, or County Behavioral Health staff. The appropriate age of students for the program is 14 to 18. Services will be extended to approximately 250 students during the course of the fiscal year. Each student enters the program on a 30-day probationary period and then commits to at least one semester in the program and agrees to regular and random drug testing.

The Community School is both an educational school and a drug and alcohol treatment program. Within the Community School program students attend daily group sessions that help build the social and emotional skills critical to maintaining a sober lifestyle. An emphasis is placed on building a community of young adults committed to the goals of the program and creating an environment of positive peer support. COE Drug and Alcohol counselors work under the supervision of a full-time therapist who is onsite the entire school day to conduct counseling sessions with students and work with their families. The outpatient drug-free treatment services offered to students and their families include assessment, treatment plan development, collateral services, group and individual counseling, discharge planning, medication evaluation, medication education and training, and crisis intervention services. Students also receive a comprehensive and challenging academic program as well as outdoor education activities to foster and maintain healthy lifestyles. The classroom teacher works prudently with the treatment program to prepare students to transition successfully to their local high schools, vocational programs, colleges, or employment.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the contract as to form and legal effect.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The FY 2014-15 Adopted Budget includes \$250,000 for the provision of this contract for the delivery of outpatient drug-free substance abuse treatment services to students enrolled in Community School programs. The contract is in the amount not to exceed \$250,000 for the aforementioned services which are reimbursable through Drug Medi-Cal. While the County directly does not provide these Drug Medi-Cal services to the Community Schools, the County, now Drug Medi-Cal approved, will facilitate reimbursement of Drug Medi-Cal funds on behalf of COE. The process to becoming Drug Medi-Cal certified to provide Drug Medi-Cal services is quite daunting and lengthy. It would be very difficult for a smaller entity, such as COE, to attain and maintain the Drug Medi-Cal certification and asked the County, already in the process of becoming certified, to facilitate the billings so that the Community Schools programs could be funded to provide services to the community. The County also processed the site certifications for each location. The County will retain an allowable 10% administrative fee to facilitate administration of the Drug Medi-Cal program. COE will be responsible for all unreimbursed costs of all services to students who do not meet medical necessity and/or Drug Medi-Cal standards.

RESULTS

The primary goal of this collaborative effort is to help students maintain sobriety, improve school attendance, and make adequate progress toward a High School diploma while receiving an appropriate education. COE provides the services to each school and anticipates the following units of service and treatment capacity for FY 2014-15:

School Site	Treatment Slots	Annual Number of Students served	Group Counseling Units	Individual Units
Sober School	15	45	1800	600
Mesa View	30	65	2500	600
Loma Vista	40	75	2500	600
Chalk Mountain	<u>30</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>2500</u>	<u>600</u>
Total	115	250	9300	2400

Measurable Outcomes for the Community Schools programs for FY 14-15 are as follows:

- At least 85% of students receiving services for more than 45 calendar days will demonstrate progress toward sobriety as measured by CalOMS instruments and/or counselor/teacher observations; and
- At least 85% of students receiving services for more than 45 calendar days will demonstrate improved school attendance as measured by increase in number of days of positive attendance over the previous 45 days and earning at least 2 school credits each week.

Pre- and post-surveys conducted during late spring of each school year of students receiving services and measured progress toward sobriety, school attendance improvement, and progress toward a high school diploma. To measure progress toward sobriety, the Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory for Adolescents (SASSI-A) was used. Results can be summed as follows:

Community Schools Results

FY 2012-13		FY 2013-14	
Drop in Alcohol Use among those students receiving services 45+ days (out of 52 students)	58.0%	Drop in Alcohol Use among those students receiving services 45+ days (out of 49 students)	59.0%
Drop in Drug Use among those students receiving services 45+ days (out of 52 students)	19.8%	Drop in Drug Use among those students receiving services 45+ days (out of 49 students)	20.0%
Drop in Alcohol Use among those students in the intensive day treatment program* (out of 12 students)	100.0%	Drop in Alcohol Use among those students in the intensive day treatment program* (out of 12 students)	100.0%
Drop in Drug Use among those students receiving the intensive day treatment program* (out of 12 students)	100.0%	Drop in Drug Use among those students receiving the intensive day treatment program* (out of 12 students)	100.0%

Average Attendance Rate** (out of 62 students)	94.0%	Average Attendance Rate** (out of 111 students)	92.5%
Students Progressing Toward a High School Diploma (out of 62 students)	85.0%	Students Progressing Toward a High School Diploma (out of 111 students)	87.0%

* Extreme results in intensive day treatment students are due to the much higher lifetime drug use history, which is consistent with the necessity for more intensive treatment.

** As opposed to an average non-sober environment community school attendance rate of 69%.

While no data for students once they graduate these programs in San Luis Obispo County exists, long term research conducted by the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc. (NCADD) indicates that nearly half of the students who graduate from community/sober school environments pursue college educations. However, these students say they require an on-campus recovery program or another recovery program nearby to help maintain their sobriety which influences where they may continue their education.

The outpatient drug-free substance abuse treatment services provided under this contract with COE are part of a larger continuum of care that aims to improve the quality of life of those served. By providing the most appropriate services to the students, the probability of positive treatment outcomes is increased. Furthermore, positive treatment outcomes contribute to the County's vision of a healthy and safe community.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Community Schools Contract Renewal FY 2014-15